

## Infanticide in China

Doubtless all present are aware that a  
very cruel practice exists in some parts  
of China of putting female infants to death  
by carefree infanticide. It has been ascertained  
that in some places especially in the Kichien  
province the number of victims averages  
15 per cent, while in others one fourth to  
one half of all the girls are murdered.

There are various reasons assigned for commit-  
ting the unnatural deed: but poverty is  
supposed to be the leading cause. Consequently  
the practice is more common among the  
lower classes than elsewhere. When questioned  
in regard to it the Chinese do not hesitate to  
commit acts of such deeds of cruelty, having been  
taught that in their own families would  
find with what disapproval and horror  
look upon it then for fear of displeasing

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So they either give an evasive answer or deny  
it altogether. The writer once had in her  
employ as a nurse a Chinese woman who  
but a very short time before con-  
verted to Christianity. Her home being so  
far away she did not often visit  
her family, but she thought of them, and  
used frequently to in her conversation to  
allude ~~refer~~ to them particularly her little girl

whom she called "White Lily". When ques-  
tioned as to her other children she  
replied that she had no others  
~~now~~ - she had had two daughters, but the  
eldest one had been drowned. <sup>When</sup> ~~she was~~  
asked if she did not feel badly to have it  
so cruelly put to death she replied that  
it was a great grief to her, but  
her husband and mother-in-law did it  
and she had no power to prevent it. They  
yet have yielded to her exhortations and

Spared her second daughter the little  
"White Lil." What wonder then that she re-  
garded her with so much maternal love and  
tenderness! Other similar cases might  
be mentioned with the exception of a  
deep regret and sorrow which it is even  
justified. There has been for a good many  
years connected with the M. E. Mission at  
Hoboken a school partly supported by all  
foreign and native mercantile firms  
founding an Asylum which receives and  
kindly cares for all such poor, little  
outcasts as may be brought to its doors  
and as proper age they are placed in the  
Boarding School for girls where they are  
taught many useful things as well as  
the blessed doctrines of our Christian  
Religion.

Dear friends, with these  
facts before us and with the conviction  
that for all we have done above our

less favored heathen sisters we are  
indebted - the gospel, shall we not  
do all in our power to spread its  
light and truth among them  
that they may be raised from the  
error and degradation into which  
they have fallen?